

## **DOWNTOWN MHC CELEBRATES MH AWARENESS MONTH**

**By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, LACDMH Public Information Officer**



The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's (LACDMH) Downtown Mental Health Center (MHC) hosted its Mental Health Awareness Month celebration on Thursday, May 28, 2015.



Nearly 60 staff, clients and their families attended the luncheon on-site. Program Head Nahed Guirguis, LCSW, welcomed everyone to the event. During the celebration, presentations were given by Amity Foundation as well as the Safe Cities Initiative Task Force. Singer Diana Johnson entertained the crowd during lunch while the art group, SCORE and Write-On! later shared a few words about their groups. A testimonial was given by William Taylor III who shared his own story of wellness and recovery.



Artwork by Jamie Barnhart and Ethel Gudino was put on display, along with hand-made jewelry for sale. Write-On!'s poetry book, filled with writing from Downtown MHC's clients, was also available for purchase for \$3. The staff gave away raffle prizes throughout the celebration.